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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. 4

COUNTRY Norway/Denmark

DATE DISTR. 23 March 1948

SUBJECT Scandinavian Governments Preparing
Counter-Action Against Possible
Communist Moves

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1. [REDACTED] indicate that the Norwegian and Danish Governments are preparing energetically to take strong security measures against an internal Communist onslaught in support of Soviet expansionist moves in Scandinavia.
2. The Norwegian Government believes that, even while the Finnish-Soviet negotiations in Moscow are in progress, the U.S.S.R. is about to propose a similar pact to Norway. The Norwegian security authorities have furthermore received information from Communist quarters which leads them to believe that a coup may be attempted by the Norwegian Communist Party (NKP) in July.
3. Among the initial measures taken is the completion of a plan for the arrest in an emergency of key members of the NKP. A full register of the NKP membership will be available to the Norwegian authorities within four months.
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4. [REDACTED], the Finnish Communist Party likewise will attempt a coup d'état should the present Moscow negotiations reach an impasse, especially on the question of granting the U.S.S.R. additional military bases in Finland.
5. In Denmark, the utmost preventive and security measures are being taken against the possibility of Communist sabotage of the Danish Army, munitions industry, naval installations, and similar targets.
6. Despite what is described as a growing wave of public indignation against the Communists, the possibility of a Communist coup d'état in Denmark even before the end of the Finnish-Soviet negotiations is not being overlooked by the Government. It is even regarded possible that the creation of serious internal incidents by the Danish Communist Party (DKP) may synchronize with a Soviet occupation of such undefended islands as Lolland and Falster on the pretext that such action is necessary to compensate for U.S. "occupation" of Greenland.

Document No. 7. ^{OK} ~~The U.S.S.R. is~~ further expected to pick Denmark as a main target in the nerve war in order to facilitate the achievement of its political and military

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objectives in Scandinavia generally.

8. These Soviet aims are believed to include control of Spitsbergen and northern Norway, the Øresund, and the Store Bælt.
9. Responsible Danish quarters are of the opinion that the U.S.S.R. intends to make the most of what may well be its last opportunity to secure strategic objectives in Scandinavia without open conflict.
10. No date was given for the alleged DKP action plans, although the dates 1 April and 18 April respectively have been mentioned in this connection.

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